
BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.



ANNUAL REPORTS
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
For the Year
1947.

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HEALTH AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE, 1947.

Councillor S. Kermode (Chairman).

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman E. J. Slinn).

Councillor K. H. Ashcroft.

Councillor W. R. Bingham.

Councillor R. W. Hawkins.

Councillor T. H. McArdle.

Councillor Mrs. E. M. Power.

Councillor J. Vaughan.

Councillor R. A. Woodford.

Councillor Miss E. I. Padwick.

Councillor H. W. Burry.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. C. Conyers Morrell, D.P.H. (Retired 30:9:47).

D. J. N. McNab, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 1:10:47).

(Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, and an Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire).

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

F. Le V. Friend, S.R.N., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

J. G. Jenkins, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

A. F. Saunders.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1947.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I submit for your information and consideration my first annual report on the health and circumstances of your borough. As this was for me an incomplete year of office I have not attempted to cover all aspects in detail. I was appointed to succeed Dr. Morrell on his retiral on 1st October, 1947, and took over the smooth running machinery which he had built up since your borough reached its present size in 1932. Much of the information detailed in the following pages relates to work performed prior to my advent, and is collated from the records left by my predecessor.

Appended to this report is that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector in which he deals in detail with those sections of the work of the department which are peculiarly his province.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Borough of Christchurch lies on the Hampshire coast at the confluence of the Rivers Avon and Stour. It is built on a subsoil of gravel and sand and so situated that it has a remarkably equable climate, mild in the winter and warm, but not oppressive, in the summer.

Formerly largely a residential district it is becoming increasingly industrialised. Apart from a number of small factories occupied in such diverse trades as the manufacture of fishing tackle, automatic milking machinery, wooden toys, plastic jewellery, boat building, and the preparation of cooked meat products, there are two large Government establishments and a large Aircraft factory. In addition there is a considerable seasonal holiday trade catered for by hotels, guest houses and a number of permanent holiday camps and camping sites.

The population has increased from 11,250 in 1932 when the borough was extended to its existing area of 5,198 acres, to the present population of 18,189. 3,000 of this rise has taken place since 1939, a period in which the amount of housing erected has been relatively negligible.

RAINFALL FOR 1947.

	ins.		ins.
January	2.71	July	0.90
February	1.40	August	0.70
March	5.86	September	0.92
April	1.48	October	0.99
May	0.87	November	1.30
June	1.23	December	2.25

TOTAL FOR THE YEAR—20.61 inches.

There were 231 days on which no rainfall was recorded. On 7 days the rainfall exceeded .5 inch, five of these were in March. 28% of the total rainfall fell in March

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area: 5,198 acres.

Population: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1947
18,180.

Number of inhabited houses: Approximately 5,572.

Rateable Value 1:4:47: £155,489.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £617.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1947 (as supplied by the Registrar-General):

Live Births.	Total.	Male.	Female.
Total	359	190	169
Legitimate	333	178	160
Illegitimate	21	12	9

Still Births.			
Total	8	4	4
Legitimate	8	4	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Deaths.			
Total	232	135	97

Deaths from Special Causes.			
Cancer	34	19	15
Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis ...	1	1	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Diphtheria	1	0	1
Enteritis (under 2 years)	0	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents	5	4	1

Infant Mortality.

(Deaths of infants under 1 year).

Total	11	8	3
Legitimate	9	7	2
Illegitimate	2	1	1

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths from puerperal causes	0	—	0
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COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

	Borough of Christchurch.	England and Wales.
Birth Rate		
per 1,000 estimated population	19.74	20.5

Stillbirth Rate.

per 1,000 estimated population	0.44	0.50
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Death Rate.

per 1,000 estimated population	12.76	12.0
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Infant Mortality Rate.

(Under 1 year of age)		
all causes per 1,000 live births	30.0	41.0

Maternal Mortality Rate.

per 1,000 total (live & still) births:		
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.10
Abortion without sepsis	0.00	0.06
Puerperal infections	0.00	0.16
Other maternal causes	0.00	0.85

Special Causes.

Death Rate per 1,000 population:		
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.02
Diphtheria	0.05	0.01
Influenza	0.05	0.09
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.00	0.01
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	0.00	5.8

Year.	Population.	Borough of Christchurch.			England & Wales.		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1929	8,728	49.0	18.6	11.1	74	16.3	13.4
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1936	13,080	53.1	15.8	12.2	59	14.8	12.1
1940	15,330	24.7	13.1	12.8	55	14.6	14.3
1943	14,570	48.6	19.7	15.1	49	16.5	12.1
1944	14,810	30.0	22.3	14.2	46	17.6	11.6
1945	16,680	26.1	18.3	11.7	46	16.1	11.4
1946	17,760	39.5	18.5	12.3	43	19.1	11.5
1947	18,180	30.0	19.7	12.76	41	20.5	12.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The table shows the notifications throughout 1947 with comparative notification rates for the whole of England and Wales.

Notifications.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 of the population.	
		Borough of Christchurch.	England and Wales.
Scarlet Fever	6	0.33	1.37
Whooping Cough	33	1.81	2.22
Diphtheria	5	0.27	0.13
Erysipelas	3	0.16	0.19
Measles	129	7.09	9.41
Pneumonia	4	0.22	0.19
Poliomyelitis	2	0.11	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

The tuberculosis services throughout the County were administered by the County Council. A Dispensary is held weekly at the Health Centre in Millhams Street; the area covered by this Clinic extends to Ringwood in the North and Lymington in the East. During the year the Mass Radiography Unit paid a visit to Christchurch and was housed in Gundimore. The response from the General public to the offer of free chest X-Ray facilities was a little disappointing but, in spite of this, useful work was done and a number of very early and hitherto unsuspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were picked out. It will be seen that the notification rate for pulmonary tuberculosis is considerably higher than normal and this is due, at least in part, to the work of the unit.

New Cases and Mortality 1932 to 1947.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1932	1	7	-	3	2	3	-	-
1936	4	4	2	1	1	-	2	-
1940	10	1	2	4	5	1	-	-
1943	6	5	2	3	1	1	-	1
1944	5	2	2	2	1	2	-	-
1945	11	4	2	2	-	2	1	1
1946	8	7	1	2	6	-	1	-
1947	19	17	1	2	2	3	-	-

POLIOMYELITIS.

During the year a disastrous epidemic of poliomyelitis struck the country and continued on into 1948. Christchurch proved to be singularly fortunate in the incidence of infection. Only two cases were notified from within the Borough. One death occurred in a child, a resident in the Borough, who at the time of onset of his illness was absent in Coventry.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Throughout the year immunisation has been carried out by private practitioners in the town at special sessions organised by my office. These were normally held once a month at the Health Centre in Millhams Street. In addition to the organised sessions an increasing number of infants are immunised by the Medical Officer in attendance at the County Council's Child Welfare Clinic, and a few at the County Council's Day Nursery. 205 children under the age of 5, and 37 over five, were protected during the year. 56 children, principally new entrants at schools, received re-inforcement doses to stimulate a waning immunity where immunisation had been carried out in infancy. It is estimated that 67% of children born in the previous year were protected, and that 64.5% of children in the area, under the age of 14, have received protective injections.

DIPHTHERIA.

Five cases of diphtheria were notified during the year and there was one death. In only one of these cases had immunisation been carried out and the child in question had a particularly mild attack with no sequelae. It is reasonable to suppose that the outcome might have been very different had she not been protected.

WATER.

The town is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works lie within the Borough boundary. All but a few outlying dwellings are connected to the main. The Company draws its raw water from the River Avon within the town, and purifies it by slow sand filtration and subsequent chloramine treatment. The quantity of residual chlorine is controlled by an automatic residual recorder with a large visible scale so that the operatives can at any time see at a glance if the correct residuum of chlorine is present in the water being pumped to supply. This machine was installed during the year.

The raw water is normally remarkably constant in quality, though difficulty has been experienced in the past from the occasional presence of trade effluents, and, during March of 1947, owing to the abnormally high rainfall and resultant strain on the filter beds. It became necessary then to increase the chlorine to such an extent that there were many complaints of the taste of the water.

In addition to supplying Christchurch, the Company also supplies part of Bournemouth, most of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, and part of the Borough of Lymington.

The raw water was examined five times during the year with in the main low total counts and *B. coli* absent in one-tenth ml. The treated water was examined chemically and bacteriologically on 40 occasions. On an occasion in March, owing to the abnormal

conditions, *B. coli* was present and it was then that the chlorine content was increased as previously mentioned. Apart from this the water was always entirely satisfactory. The quantity has been at all times satisfactory.

The water has no plumbo solvent action.

The Water Company's records at mid-year show 4,939 houses to be supplied from their mains. No standpipes are in use.

A typical result of the examination of the water is given below.

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 28:5:47
from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance. Bright with very few particles of mineral debris.

Turbidity (Silica Scale): Less than 5

Colour (Hazen): Less than 10. Odour: Nil.

Reaction pH: On the alkaline side of neutrality, 7.8.

Free Carbon Dioxide: 4.

Electric Conductivity at 20 deg.C: 390.

Total Solids, dried at 180 deg.C.: 260.

Chlorine in Chlorides: 12. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 190.

Hardness: Total 230. Carbonate (Temporary): 190.

Non-Carbonate (Permanent): 40.

Nitrogen in Nitrates: 2.0. Nitrogen in Nitrites: Absent.

Free Ammonia: 0.21. Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs. at 27 deg.C.: 0.70.

Albuminoid Ammonia: 0.028. Free Chlorine Reaction: 0.4.

Metals: Iron, Less than 0.03. Other metals absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in:—1 day
at 37 deg.C.: 1; 2 days at 37 deg.C.: 4; 3 days at
20 deg.C.: 18.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction: Present in, Nil.

Absent from, 100 ml.

Bact. Coli: Present in, Nil. Absent from, 100 ml.

Cl. welchii Reaction: Present in, Nil. Absent from, 100 ml.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, almost neutral in reaction and free from metals, apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not unduly so, and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Signed.—GORDON MILES.

3rd June, 1947. for The Counties Public Health Laboratories.

SCHOOLS.

There are seven County Council Schools within the Borough, three of which are housed in old-fashioned buildings which will eventually have to be rebuilt. All are grossly overcrowded, and in a number of cases temporary buildings or hired accommodation outside the School is used in an endeavour to cope with the excess children. In spite of this, as elsewhere throughout the country, classes are too large for efficient handling, and in some Schools there are waiting lists of children for admission. All Schools have now been provided with facilities for mid-day meals, and one-third of a pint of milk daily is available to all pupils.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION.

School Medical Inspections are conducted by the Staff of the County Medical Officer. Children are inspected as new entrants, periodically throughout their school life, and in the last year of their attendance at School. Any child found to have a defect is noted as a "special" and is examined at more frequent intervals. Inspections take place on the school premises, and parents are encouraged to be present. Visual defects, speech defects, ear, nose and throat disease, and orthopaedic conditions are referred, with the consent of the family doctor, to the County Specialists for advice and treatment. Other cases are referred to the family doctor or to the minor ailment clinic as necessary.

In addition, the Health Visitor makes periodic visits to Schools and carries out inspections for cleanliness and infectious conditions. Children found to be infested with head lice are referred to their parents for treatment in the first place, but if this is not successfully carried out they may be summoned for compulsory treatment to a cleansing centre established at the Health Centre in Millhams Street.

A Minor Ailments Clinic is held weekly in the Health Centre.

CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council is the Child Welfare Authority, and a Child Welfare Clinic is held weekly at the Millhams Street Health Centre. At this clinic children are accurately weighed, and their progress noted. Advice is given on diet, hygiene and infant management by the Medical Officer in attendance and the two Health Visitors. Defects are noted early and the services of the County Specialists are available with the consent of the family doctor for the treatment of visual defects, ear, nose and throat disease, and orthopaedic conditions. No treatment is carried out at the Clinic, children found to require treatment being referred to their own doctors. Breast feeding is encouraged to the utmost, but where this proves impossible certain brands of proprietary dried milks are available at the Clinic at reduced prices, and National Dried Milk is obtained from the Food Office.

The conduct of the Clinic would be impossible without the devoted help given by the voluntary workers of the Christchurch Child Welfare Society, to whom I should like to express my grateful thanks.

NURSERIES.

Three private residential nurseries are in existence in the town. The County Council, as the Child Welfare Authority, is responsible for their supervision; periodic visits are made by the Staff of the County Medical Officer who only licences such a Nursery, in the first place, after a satisfactory report from an Assistant County Medical Officer.

The British Red Cross Society runs a further residential nursery, and the County Council continues to maintain the old Wartime Day Nursery in the Square House which caters for 38 children whose mothers are at work during the day.

ILLEGITIMACY.

The illegitimacy rate continues to fall. This rose to a peak of 144 per 1,000 live births in 1945, it was 86 in 1946, and for 1947 it is 58.5. It is apparent that, as anticipated, with the return of more normal conditions the figure is returning to something nearer the pre-war figure of 43.

SCABIES.

Cases of Scabies have continued to be treated at the Cleansing Centre established at the Health Centre in Millhams Street. 41 persons were treated throughout the year, this includes a number who were not suffering from obvious infection, but who came under treatment as members of a family unit, which, if not treated in its entirety, may suffer relapses in the untreated members. The general trend of the incidence is markedly downward.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The County Council is the responsible authority for the control and treatment of Venereal Disease. A Clinic serving this area is held at the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Boscombe.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The normal method of refuse disposal by controlled tipping has continued and, with the provision of adequate quantities of covering material, nuisance complained of in the past from the Stanpit dump has been largely eliminated, apart from fires on the face of the dump which may have been maliciously ignited.

A start was made on reclaiming a salt marsh at the approach to the Haven Quay. Since this was a spot frequented by the public, great care was taken to provide adequate covering and the working face was at all times kept to the minimum. The Lewin Collector proved of the greatest value in this operation, delivering a pulverised and largely homogeneous mass of material well suited for the work in hand.

CAMPING SITES.

There are eight registered Camping Sites within the Borough, all of which have been in existence for many years. As, in the present state of the law, a licence once issued is virtually ir-

revocable, the Council has rightly hesitated to issue further Camp Site Licences, and a proposal to operate a Municipal Camp has failed largely from lack of agreement over a suitable site. A number of the existing camp sites are occupied by a motley collection of shacks, old caravans, derelict tramcars and disused buses. An endeavour is being made to persuade the owners of sites occupied by unsuitable erections to improve the existing conditions, and this is meeting with a measure of success.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The health of the area has been satisfactory throughout the year, and there has been no abnormal incidence of infectious disease.

Housing remains here, as elsewhere, one of the most urgent problems confronting the Council. The fact that the number on the waiting list at the end of the year approached 1,000, and that during the year only 197 houses were made available, indicates the sum of misery still to be dispelled. In addition, there exists throughout the Borough a considerable number of houses not reasonably fit for human habitation, and whose occupants will eventually have to be rehoused. The Council has also some 200 families lodged in Nissen Huts and other converted ex-Service buildings at Holmsley. These habitations are of the most temporary character and only justified by need. They must not be allowed to be occupied for a day longer than is necessary. Unless the greatest vigilance is exercised there is a danger that they may eventually degenerate into miserable tin slums wherein are housed the shiftless and the unfortunate.

In general, the public conveniences in the town are scarce, unsatisfactory and unsavoury. I am fully aware of the difficulties of maintenance in a small town where the expense of a full-time attendant may be unjustified, and where serious and malicious damage is done to unattended premises by criminal and irresponsible users. None the less, I feel that if the conveniences were more in keeping with your progressive town the public might be stimulated to take greater care of its own property.

The reclaiming of the marsh at the Haven will occupy the activities of the refuse disposal squads for some time, but eventually, and for years to come, it seems likely that tipping will continue on the Stanpit Marsh. It is, in my opinion, essential that the Council should consider and formulate a definite plan for the future of this large area which can, by means of judicious tipping, be raised throughout and converted from a floodable marsh to dry firm land of great value to the town.

In conclusion, I would wish to thank the Mayor and the members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me as a newcomer, Dr. Morrell for much helpful guidance and advice, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector for his invaluable technical advice, his immense energy, and his enthusiastic co-operation in all phases of the work.

D. J. N. McNAB.

August, 1948.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT
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CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1947.

To The MAYOR, ALDERMEN, COUNCILLORS AND
BURGESSES of the Borough of Christchurch.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Seventh Annual Report covering the period 1st January to 31st December, 1947.

These reports require a considerable amount of thought, and one is faced with the problem of producing an article which will be informative and at the same time sufficiently interesting to hold the attention of the reader. This is not altogether an easy task when dealing with such mundane matters as nuisances; housing; public cleansing and the many other matters dealt with by a Public Health Department, and I can only hope that the importance of the work of the department to the well-being of the inhabitants of the town will prove of sufficient interest to warrant a careful perusal of this report.

Every effort is made to avoid repetition in preparing this type of work. There are, however, many things referred to in previous reports which must of necessity be made the subject of further discussion.

From a Public Health point of view, the year under review has been notable in that it has witnessed the coming into operation of the long overdue regulations in connection with the Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream. I refer to the "Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947," which became operative on the 1st of May.

These regulations will be more fully discussed under the heading of "Ice Cream" later in this report.

The rapid growth of the town has brought with it many problems which have had to be dealt with by the department. This is reflected in the very large number (10,058) of inspections recorded in Table 1. These inspections cover a very wide field, and although it is impossible to give details of all the matters dealt with, the list is, I think, sufficiently comprehensive to convey an impression of the work carried out during the year.

In my report for 1946, the Council was informed that Mr. Jenkins, a pupil in the department at the outbreak of war in 1939, had returned and had resumed his training. Mr. Jenkins qualified at the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board held in April, 1947, and with the approval of the Ministry of Health, was appointed as an Additional Sanitary Inspector and took up his duties on the 21st July, 1947. Mr. Jenkins is now preparing for the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and it is hoped he will sit for this examination in October, 1948.

On the appointment of the second Additional Sanitary In-

spector, I reorganised the duties of the department and divided the Borough into two districts, Mr. Jenkins being responsible for the district west of the Mill Stream, and Mr. Saunders for that east of the Stream. This arrangement has worked well, each Inspector, under my direction, being responsible for the whole of the work in his area.

Records, which because of shortage of labour had to be allowed to lapse, have now been brought up to date and Record Cards have been prepared in respect of:—

- 345 Shops.
- 6 Bakehouses.
- 39 Offices
- 93 Factories.
- 12 Cowsheds.
- 10 Dairies.
- 48 Ice Cream Premises.
- 63 Food Premises.
- 6 Fish Frying Premises.

In addition, the necessary Registers in respect of the above have also been brought up-to-date.

The main items of the report are set out under their respective headings as follows:—

1. HOUSING—SLUM CLEARANCE:

The position in regard to this class of property remains unchanged. As stated in previous reports, nothing can be done at this stage to rid the town of this type of property, and it is fortunate that the number falling into this category is comparatively small. Every effort is made to maintain the properties in a reasonable state of repair, but in many cases a stage has been reached where more harm than good will be done by any further attempts at patching up. It is therefore hoped that the housing programme will be sufficiently accelerated in the near future to permit of the rehousing of the families and the demolition of the buildings concerned.

2 HOUSING—RECONDITIONING:

Work under this heading forms a major part of the duties of a Sanitary Inspector, and inspections are constantly being carried out to ensure that properties of the type suitable for occupation by members of the working classes are maintained in a reasonable state of repair.

The fact that the Control of Civil Building Regulations, in so far as they are applicable to existing buildings, are under the control of the department, greatly facilitates the task, as reference to another department is unnecessary and no delay is experienced in issuing licences to cover work called for by the department.

Under the present heading in my report for 1946, I stated:—
“The cost of maintaining properties has increased by leaps and

bounds and I think it is to be greatly regretted that the Government has not yet seen its way to permit landlords (other than local authorities who already have that power) to increase their rents, as was done after the 1914-18 war, to cover increased costs of repairs." These remarks still hold good, and if anything such an increase is more warranted now than at any other period, as there have been further sharp rises in wages and costs of materials.

Practically every notice calling for repairs was taken under the Public Health Act, and when one considers the high costs of repairs, the fact that in only 53 out of 261 cases was it found necessary to ask for statutory powers is a sign of the good will and co-operation shown by the property owners in the town. Such co-operation greatly facilitates the task of the department and makes for greater efficiency. 220 houses received substantial repairs during the year.

3. HOUSING—OVERCROWDING:

There has been a further increase in the population, and this has added to the difficulties already confronting the Council. A constant watch is maintained on this aspect of the housing situation, and during the year 237 houses were inspected to ascertain "permitted numbers," 728 rooms being measured and the necessary records prepared.

Of the houses so far inspected, none have proved to be severely overcrowded. This, however, is due to the fact that all rooms, with the exception of those not normally used either as living rooms or as bedrooms, are, in accordance with the Housing Act, 1936, counted as bedrooms. This method of assessing the permitted numbers is very much disliked by public health officers who realise that even the poorest family insists upon reserving at least one room as a sitting or living room, with the result that bedrooms are frequently overcrowded. Is it reasonable to expect a family to live and entertain their friends and relations in a room in which they have to sleep?

I call to mind the case of a married couple who, because of the present system of assessing Permitted Numbers, had to sleep in the dining room. This couple could not go to bed till the rest of the family had had supper, and had to rise before six every morning in order that breakfast could be prepared and served to members of the family who commenced work at 7 a.m. The wife who was pregnant, had a miscarriage, and the family doctor attributed this to lack of proper rest. Yet, this house was NOT overcrowded. Needless to say, this family has now been found other accommodation. This is by no means an isolated case, and I think this is conclusive evidence of the fact that "Permitted Numbers" should be based on the number of "bedrooms" and not on the number of "rooms" as defined in Section 68 of the Housing Act, 1936. Then, and only then, will it be possible to obtain a true picture of the housing requirements of the Country

as a whole. I therefore strongly recommend that the present system of assessing accommodation be abolished and that it be replaced by one in which "bedrooms" only are taken into consideration.

From the foregoing it will be appreciated that the figures which appear in Table 7 are approximate only.

4. ALLOCATION OF HOUSES:

There is little doubt that the most urgent need of the community is housing accommodation. This is a matter which has been a constant source of concern to the Council and the Committee responsible for the rehousing of inadequately housed persons, and although great strides have been made in this direction, much remains to be done, and at the present rate of building it will be some years before the present long list of applicants is exhausted.

Several methods of assessing the merits of the families concerned have been tried and found wanting, and it was decided to review the position and endeavour to produce a Points Scheme which would be workable. With this object in view, I was instructed by the Housing Tenancies Committee to submit a scheme for their consideration. This I did in July, and with a few modifications the scheme was adopted and has operated reasonably well, though as pointed out in the memorandum accompanying it, "a Points Scheme cannot be guaranteed to be all-embracing, and it is therefore essential that special cases which lie outside the scope of the scheme should be made the subject of a special report—the Committee reserving the right to allocate additional points as may be thought necessary."

I have visited every applicant whose case has been considered during the year, and I have at times found it extremely difficult to arrive at a definite conclusion, for as pointed out in my report for 1946, "Overcrowding" is not the only factor to be taken into consideration, for there are many overcrowded families who lead a quite normal and comparatively happy life. On the other hand, in very many cases where there is no overcrowding there is a complete absence of "family life," often due to interference by "in-laws." There is at present on the Council's list a large number of young married couples who, because of the restrictions placed upon them by landlord or landlady, cannot have a family as they were rented the rooms on the definite understanding that there should be no children. This is an unwarranted and intolerable interference with the liberties of the individual, and every possible step should be taken to rehouse these people at the earliest opportunity. For this purpose I would again suggest the construction of flats which could be let at a reasonable rent. The relatively high rents demanded for present-day Council houses are a veritable stumbling block to the effective rehousing of some of the most deserving cases on the Council's list, and I can foresee the time, not far distant, when a number of the Council's tenants will not be in a position to meet their commitments. In very

many cases which I have investigated, I have been informed by the wife that she would go to work in order to supplement the income and thus meet the rent. But what is to happen if and when a child comes along? As I see it, the welfare of the family will naturally come first, the rent being of secondary consideration. Though this is a matter not coming within the province of the Public Health Department, it is nevertheless important that it should be borne in mind.

There are, no doubt, very many old people residing in the Borough who, due to lack of means, are living under very adverse conditions. This is a section of the population for which little or no provision is made in the Council's Housing Schemes. At the other end of the scale one finds elderly couples who, having reared a family, are now occupying 6 and 7-roomed houses which, in many cases, they would be glad to vacate if other more compact accommodation were available. The rehousing of this class of family would release the more commodious properties for larger families.

There are at present 895 applicants on the Council's waiting list, the families being made up as follows:—

No. in Family.	No. of Applicants.
12	1
11	1
10	2
9	2
8	3
7	18
6	18
5	43
4	162
3	321
2	286
1	38

In addition, 211 families, not included in the above list, are temporarily housed at Holmsley

5. FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

These are matters which receive the constant attention of your Inspectors, no less than 786 visits having been made to these premises, which include dairies and bakehouses.

In previous reports, I have drawn attention to the fact that the methods of preparation and distribution of food in this country still leave much to be desired. All too frequently one finds food exposed to contamination by dogs, flies and dust; large numbers of open-fronted shops still being used, with consequent heavy contamination of certain types of food by bacteria-laden dust thrown up by fast-moving traffic.

The methods of display adopted by greengrocers, whereby fruit and vegetables, many of which are eaten without previous cooking, are exposed on the side-walk outside their premises, are

to be deplored, as these articles are frequently contaminated by dogs. This is a practice which should be prohibited, no food being exposed to unnecessary contamination. A minimum height at which unprotected foods can be displayed should be incorporated in future Acts dealing with the preparation and sale of food.

Difficulty in replacing crockery ware is still being experienced by restaurant and cafe proprietors with the result that cracked and chipped cups and plates have to be kept in circulation. This type of ware is not only uninviting but is difficult to keep clean and may well prove a source of infection. This is a matter which should be taken up by the Ministry of Health with a view to speeding up the supply of these utensils.

Inter alia, Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, requires the provision of hot and cold water in, or within reasonable distance of rooms in which food is prepared or stored.

This is a matter which is exercising the attention of the department, a survey of all food premises having been made with a view to obtaining a clear picture of the position in your town. Steps are now being taken to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act.

Unfortunately, the wording of the Section is rather ambiguous, and it would have been of considerable assistance to local authorities and the officers responsible for administering the Act, had it been made a definite requirement that hot and cold water should be laid on in pipes discharging into fixed wash-hand basins which in turn discharge to a properly trapped gulley. As it is, a supply of hot water may consist of a bucket heated on a gas ring or a kettle on the hob. As to the washing basins, these consist of a variety of containers which may vary from enamelled iron bowls to old tins, in fact, almost anything which will hold water.

Our duties are therefore made unduly difficult, and a great deal of tact and persuasion have to be brought into play to achieve the desired results. Our hands should therefore be strengthened by an early amendment to Section 13. With present-day facilities for the provision of hot water, namely Ascot and Electric Immersion heaters, the plea that boilers cannot be kept going either because of hot weather or fuel rationing no longer holds good, and all food premises could and should be provided with this essential service. I hope in the not too distant future to be in a position to report that all food premises are, in fact, provided with these facilities.

In 1946 I stated that practically every Public Bar owned by Messrs. Strong & Co., in Christchurch and district, had been provided with both hot and cold water at the bar, and that I hoped all brewers would follow this lead. This has in fact been done, and all premises of this type now have hot and cold water at the bar. This is a step in the right direction, and the brewers concerned are to be congratulated.

Table 2 shows the articles of food surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following is a list of samples taken in your district under the above Act during the year ended 31st March, 1948. All the samples were satisfactory.

Sample.	No.	Sample.	No.
Butter	2	Meat Pie	1
Cooking Fat	3	Milk	41
Fish Paste	1	Saccharin Tablets	1
Flour, Self-Raising	1	Spirits	7
Golden Syrup	1	Other Samples	4
Jam	1	TOTAL—63.	

The 41 Milk Samples contained an average of 3.8% of Milk Fat, and 8.6% of Non-Fatty Solids.

(Signed) C. O. PERRY.

Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures.

6. SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

No slaughtering other than an occasional cottager's pig is carried out in Christchurch, the whole of the fresh meat sold in the Borough coming from the Centralised Slaughtering establishment in Bournemouth. The few Slaughterhouses in Christchurch have not been used for a number of years, and it is hoped that in the event of decentralisation of slaughtering, the Council will consider the provision of a Municipal Abattoir.

7. DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS:

A few changes have occurred during the year. Table 3 sets out in detail the particulars as recorded in the Register.

On the whole, the standard of cleanliness at these premises has been very good, and in only one case has it been found necessary to draw the attention of the occupier to the unsatisfactory condition of his premises. Unfortunately, this is a hardy annual, the premises having been the subject of an adverse report for a number of years, the dairyman concerned again appearing before the Committee in February. Every effort is made to maintain the premises in a reasonable state of cleanliness, but nothing short of complete reconstruction will prove really effective.

134 visits, as against 48 in 1946, have been made to these establishments during the year.

8. DRAINAGE:

16 premises have been provided with new drains, and the drains of 16 properties have been partly or wholly relaid. 8 Cesspools and 3 pail closets have been abolished.

In order to obtain a correct record of the number of proper-

ties not provided with main drainage, a survey has been carried out, and as far as can be ascertained the facts are as follows:—

Number of properties having Septic Tanks	27
Number of properties having Cesspools	83
Number of properties having Bucket Latrines	91
Number of properties with other means (Elsans)	3

It will be readily agreed that the number of properties not connected to the sewer is abnormally high for this type of town, and I must admit that prior to the survey being made, I was of the opinion that the number was comparatively small.

Not all the properties included in the above summary could be connected to the Council's foul water sewers, a further survey having revealed the following facts:—

Number of properties which could be connected to existing sewers	33
Number of properties which could be connected if sewers were available	17
Properties too remote or too few to warrant provision of sewers at this stage	154

Every effort will be made to reduce to a minimum the number of properties not connected to the sewers, and work has, in fact, already commenced on some of these. It will, however, be some time before the whole of the properties are dealt with.

9. VERMINOUS PREMISES:

5 Complaints of presence of bugs and/or fleas were lodged during the year, but in only one case was the complaint (fleas) confirmed. This property was treated with D.D.T. and such treatment proved completely effective.

The practice of spraying Prefabricated houses and bungalows with D.D.T. prior to occupation has now been extended to all properties erected for the Council, 143 houses and bungalows having been dealt with during the year.

10. CAMPING SITES:

An ever-growing number of persons now takes this form of holiday in preference to hotel or boarding house life with their many rules and restrictions. Consequently, very large numbers of caravans are appearing in many parts of the Borough, and it is practically impossible to keep a check on their movements.

Section 269(2) of the Public Health Act, 1936, permits the use of moveable dwellings on unlicensed sites for a period of not more than 42 consecutive days or 60 days in any twelve consecutive months.

This concession makes the task of the local authority, and its officers, very difficult, as it is practically impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the period during which these dwellings are occupied. As pointed out in my previous report, it

has been found impossible to operate this section, and in practically every case I have had to rely on the integrity of the owner of the land not to exceed the period permitted by the Act. It has been obvious in many instances that the regulations are being flouted, but without accurate records it is impossible to take any action.

Though well served with permanent licensed sites and camps, of which there are 8, there is room for more and larger accommodation. I have drawn the attention of the Council on several occasions to the need for a Municipal Camping Site. Several sites have been suggested, but, for one reason or another, these were not considered suitable. This is a matter which should receive the early attention of the Council, and one which would, no doubt, help to reduce the number of caravans being sited in all sorts of odd corners throughout the Borough.

What was originally known as Edmund's Camp has been taken over by the Wick Ferrý Holiday Camp Ltd., and a permanent Camp consisting of 87 Chalets with accommodation for 200 persons, a restaurant and games room, has been constructed. The present structures are of a temporary nature and will be replaced by permanent buildings as soon as conditions permit. The Camp is attractively laid out; is provided with all modern conveniences; is well run, and will prove an asset to the town.

Extensive alterations have been made to McArdle's Camp. Several of the less desirable structures have been removed and replaced by small Chalets. Several more will be replaced next year.

At the request of the department, a new block of Conveniences has been constructed, accommodation for males and females being provided.

On the whole, the camping sites in your Borough are well conducted and there has been no occasion to take serious action during the year.

11. PUBLIC CLEANSING :

(a) Refuse Collection:

To be really efficient, a system of refuse collection should work with almost clock-like precision, and it should be the aim of any Cleansing Superintendent worthy of the name, to so organise the service that he can, at any given moment, pin-point the position of his vehicles and crews. I lay no claim to having reached this degree of perfection, breakdowns and staffing difficulties occasionally interrupting the smooth-running of the service. It is, nevertheless, the proud boast of the department that the service is efficient, and the fact that only 25 complaints of non-collection of refuse were received during the year is proof that your refuse collectors are carrying out their none too pleasant duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

The regular collection of house and trade refuse is essential to the well-being of the inhabitants. A weekly service is operated in your Borough, special collections being made from trade

premises as and when required. Although there has been no great increase in the population, there has been a good deal of redistribution as and when new houses have become available. In addition, a very large number of families has been accommodated in the former R.A.F. Camp at Holmsley, and as the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council, in whose area these hutments are situated, could not undertake the work, the Council was asked to consider extending its service to cover both the Christchurch and Ringwood sections of this large Camp. This the Council agreed to do, and a regular weekly collection of refuse and salvage from this area, on a repayment basis, has been operated since May, 1947.

Refuse collection vehicles, by virtue of the nature of the work which they perform, and the fact that the engines are seldom at rest, are subject to a considerable degree of wear, and cannot be expected to have as long a life as vehicles operating on more normal work. The vehicles at present in the service of the Council have stood up well to the work, but are now showing signs of a good deal of wear, and the stage has been reached where the question of renewals will have to be considered, and I suggest that this is a matter which should receive early attention as the period of delivery of this type of vehicle may be anything from 2 to 3 years.

The question of the type of vehicle is of great importance, present-day standards of hygiene demanding that refuse collection be carried out with the minimum of nuisance from smell and dust emission, and the maximum of comfort in travelling and working conditions for the men employed on this work. The side-loading type of vehicle with sliding covers, as at present used by the Council, does not meet these requirements, and I recommend that the purchase of this type be not considered.

Many types of dustless-loading vehicles are now available, and the experience gained with the Lewin Compressor Collector purchased in 1946, has convinced me that this type has many advantages over side-loaders. It is almost completely dustless; has a very large capacity, and from the point of view of controlled tipping, produces a much finer type of refuse which very quickly consolidates. Before making any definite recommendation, however, I would much prefer to contact other authorities operating various types of dustless-loaders, and with the permission of the Council, view some of these under actual working conditions.

As the Lewin had been in operation for only a matter of weeks, I was not in a position to express an opinion on working costs when preparing the report for 1946.

The vehicle has now been operating for approximately seventeen months, and other than a few teething troubles which were quickly remedied by the manufacturers, has been more or less trouble-free. In addition to Sopers Lane; Wickfield Estate; Wick Lane; Church Lane; Church Street; Princess Avenue and The Quay, this vehicle deals with the refuse of the whole of the

district west of the traffic lights in High Street, the crew consisting of the driver and 5 loaders. This work was formerly carried out by 2 vehicles, each with a driver and 3 loaders.

This type of vehicle, with its very large capacity, and the fact that the refuse has to be compressed, has a higher petrol consumption than the side-loading type of freighter also operated by the Council, but a comparison of the petrol figures for the current year with those of 1946, will reveal the fact that a saving of 338 gallons has been effected, and this despite the fact that a large number of new houses have been constructed, and collections of refuse and kitchen waste from the camps at Holmsley have also had to be undertaken.

From a study of Table 11 it will be apparent that with its very much larger capacity, this vehicle is more economical than the smaller type of side-loading freighter when operating in a district of the type now served by the Lewin.

The cost of refuse collection is, to a very great degree, influenced by the "length of carry"; in other words, the distance of the household bin from the refuse vehicle. It is therefore important that the question of approach to premises should be given careful thought in the development of housing estates. This matter was completely overlooked when the Upper Gordon Road estate was planned, with the result that a more ill-conceived lay-out, from a Cleansing point of view, is difficult to imagine, abnormally long distances—varying from a minimum of 6 yards to a maximum of 90, and an average of 45 yards having to be covered to reach the bin. These distances must, of course, be doubled to cover the return journey.

I have carried out a test to ascertain the time taken to collect refuse from the 50 premises comprising this estate. The test was made in the summer, the weather being fine, and the men unhampered by overcoats. Because of the time of year, the refuse was light, and the quantity comparatively small. Collection commenced at 4.11 and was completed at 4.54 p.m., a total of 43 minutes. The crew consisted of 1 driver and 3 loaders. The total man-hours was therefore 2.86. Reduced to terms of minutes per house, this is equivalent to 3.44. It is safe to assume that this time would be exceeded in the winter, and it is anticipated that it would be in the neighbourhood of 5 minutes per house. This, of course, is excessive, and quite apart from the fact that it imposes an unnecessary burden on the refuse collectors, it adds considerably to the cost of the service.

In his book, "Modern Public Cleansing Practice," the late A. L. Thomson describes an experiment which he carried out on an estate of 315 houses.

"The bins were originally kept at the rear of the house, a distance of 23 yards from the vehicle, but for the purposes of the experiment were placed at the gable end, reducing the distance to 15 yards. The actual saving of gable collection against rear collection being: 1 hour 40 mins. per 5 hours, 20 mins. per man. Therefore, with a collecting unit of three men, the total saving

is 300 mins. per a total man-hour collecting time of 16 hours. Resolved into a collection—day's work ($8\frac{1}{2}$ hours), the saving is 2.6 hours, which, at the actual all-in cost (labour and vehicle) of 7s. 4d. per hour, represents a saving of 19s. 0d. per day."

I have quoted these cases in order to emphasise the importance of this matter in relation to the economics of collection, and from what has been said, it will no doubt be appreciated that the cost of collection from an area such as that under discussion, is bound to be unduly high. This is a matter which should be given very careful consideration in any future developments of this type.

(b) Refuse Disposal:

Refuse continues to be disposed of by Controlled Tipping, and the bulk of this material has been deposited on Stanpit Marsh.

As suggested in my report for 1946, I was authorised to reclaim the low-lying land leading to Haven Quay, conditional upon tipping being carried out between the period 1st October to 31st March only, the Council being anxious that there should be no complaints from visitors who frequent this spot during the summer months. A comparatively large area was reclaimed in the period allowed, the whole of the work being carried out strictly in accordance with the Ministry of Health's recommendations, no nuisance being caused at any time. The area so far reclaimed has been grassed down, and I am confident that when the whole of the site has been treated in a similar manner, it will prove a great asset to the town.

To those not intimately acquainted with the subject, the disposal of refuse by Controlled Tipping is a matter which is apt to conjure up a picture of large masses of smelly refuse disfiguring the countryside. This was in fact the case many years ago, but thanks to the work of such pioneers as Dawcs, late of Keighley, and now Director of Salvage and Recovery, and the late Mr. Call, of Bradford, a system of disposal commonly referred to as the "Bradford System" was evolved, and so cheap and effective is this method of disposal that by 1939 no less than 302 of the 395 local authorities who submitted Cleansing Returns to the Ministry of Health in 1938, disposed of the whole or part of their refuse by this method. It is claimed that the late Mr. Call saved his City (Bradford) no less a sum than £74,000 a year as the result of the change over from incineration to Controlled Tipping.

For many years, Plymouth disposed of a high percentage of its refuse by "Barging to Sea," a method which was considered cheap and effective. This method was discontinued some years ago and Controlled Tipping adopted.

This method of disposal has many advantages over the more costly system of incineration, and has been the means of restoring vast areas of derelict land to usefulness.

We are particularly fortunate in Christchurch in that large areas of low-lying land are available for the disposal of refuse, and it will be many years before the Council is faced with the problem of seeking other means of disposal due to shortage of suitable land.

The disposal of refuse by Controlled Tipping should not have "disposal" as its sole object. A more far-seeing policy should be adopted, and tipping should be carried out to a definite plan. In other words, the area to be reclaimed should be surveyed, and plans for its eventual development prepared. This would ensure that the best use was made of the materials available.

A great deal of the land already reclaimed on the Stanpit Marsh has unfortunately been allowed to remain derelict, and I would again urge that this land be put to a useful purpose, and not merely used as a dumping ground for hardcore and other materials for which no immediate use can be found, or left to be overrun by weeds. This sort of thing has a detrimental effect upon the men whose job it is to reclaim the land as they feel that their efforts have been wasted. A sufficiently large area has been reclaimed at Stanpit to warrant development as a garden or playing field, and I suggest this is a matter which should be given early attention.

Very large quantities of refuse have been dealt with during the year, 1,360 loads of house and trade refuse, and 1,648 loads of other materials having been disposed of at Stanpit and The Haven. The decrease in the number of loads of house and trade refuse is accounted for by the very large capacity of the Lewin, and is not due to a decrease in materials. Fortunately, due to the development of the No. 1 and No. 2 Somerford Housing Sites, there has been a plentiful supply of covering materials.

12. SALVAGE:

The collection of materials of this nature is still of the utmost importance to the economic position of the country, the emphasis being on paper, and though large quantities are still being collected, these fall far short of the target (1 ton per 1,000 of population per month) set by the Board of Trade, with the result that thousands of tons of waste paper have to be imported. A report which appeared in a recent (July, 1948) issue of a London Newspaper, stated that 5,000 tons of waste paper, costing £25 per ton, had been imported from Sweden during the previous four months. This is a fantastic position in which to find oneself, having regard to the fact that thousands of tons of this material are regularly thrown away in dustbins throughout the country each year.

In your Borough, where a weekly collection operates, trailers are drawn to accommodate paper and other materials of value. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the quantity being made available, and many householders are under the impression that these materials are no longer required. It is therefore essential that steps should be taken to reawaken interest, and with this object in view, the Board of Trade is paying a bonus to local authorities, the idea being that this sum should be spent on advertising. It is doubtful whether advertising would be really effective, and I am convinced that a "personal approach" to householders would prove much more successful.

As will be seen from a study of Table 9, the quantity of paper sold during the year is less than 50% of the target set by the Board of Trade. The fact that hundreds of local authorities have had similar experiences is no excuse for the apparent apathy towards this important subject, and steps now being taken by the department will, I hope, result in a considerable increase in the quantity of materials made available.

13. KITCHEN WASTE:

A separate collection of this material has been maintained throughout the year, and in addition to the bins sited in various parts of the Borough, a number has been placed in the Camps at Holmsley.

Here again, it is regrettable to have to report a decrease in the quantity collected. This is partly accounted for by an increase in the number of pig and poultry keepers who collect this material from neighbouring properties. Quite a large number of householders dispose of their waste on compost heaps, and, despite the fact that the street bins have been located in the most convenient positions, many householders still place this material in their dustbins.

In some parts of the country experiments have been carried out with individual containers of the covered bucket type, and East Ham, where the experiment was first tried out, reports outstanding results. Other local authorities are now taking up this method of collection, one of the advantages being that it does away with the street bins to which the public has always had an objection.

Whether such a scheme would be successful in this area could only be ascertained by a personal canvass of householders. One must, however, bear in mind that as practically every house in the Borough has a garden, a great deal of this material will be placed on the compost heap, and no matter what system of collection is operated, this material would not be made available to the local authority.

Tables 12, 13 and 14, set out in detail the transactions for the year under review. From these Tables it will be seen that upwards of 211 tons of kitchen waste and concentrate have been handled by the department, the value of these materials being in the neighbourhood of £603, the net income being £69: 18: 5. This is the first time the scheme has shown a profit, and this profit is entirely the outcome of the increased bonus paid by the Board of Trade. There would otherwise have been a deficit of approximately £6.

14. RODENT CONTROL:

To be effective, rat destruction is a process which must be carried out relentlessly. At the least sign of easing off, there would no doubt be a very large increase in the rat population, and the good work done by your Rodent Officer would be nullified.

No really heavy infestations have been found, the majority of the cases dealt with being of a minor nature, one or two rats at the most. Even the refuse dump, which at one time was literally overrun with rats, is now almost free of this pest, only 7 being picked up after the last treatment.

An inspection of the sewers early in the year failed to reveal any signs of rat infestation. Such a complete absence of rats is no doubt due to the fact that the sewers are surcharged at certain times of the year.

There has been no change in the charges made for the service, these remaining at 2/6 for private properties and 10/6 for business premises. I need hardly remind the Council that these nominal sums cannot be expected to cover costs, and that a part of the service must remain a charge against the rates. Thanks to the efforts of your Borough Treasurer, a substantial proportion of the costs has been recovered from the Ministry, but the indications are that the Council will eventually have to accept the offer made by the Ministry in Circular N.S. 12, whereby the Ministry would bear 60% of the cost of treating premises other than business premises, the local authority having to bear the remaining 40%.

Table 16 sets out in some detail the work carried out during the year. It will be seen from this that 350 rats were picked up after poisoning, and the estimated total kill, based on the Ministry formula, is 926.

A statement of income and expenditure appears in Table 15

15. DISINFECTING STATION:

No great use has been made of the disinfecting apparatus during the year. Only 1,330 articles, mainly mattresses, blankets and pillows having been dealt with.

Due to the absence of suitable transport, the bedding and clothing of persons suffering from infectious diseases were dealt with in situ, the bedding and rooms being sprayed with formalin. In special cases, treatment was carried out at the disinfecting station.

May I again draw the attention of the Council to the importance of ensuring that the bedding used in the Council's beach huts is scrupulously clean and free from all risks of conveying infection. As suggested in my previous report, this bedding should be passed through the disinfector at regular intervals. Proof that this was being done would help refute any claim which might be made against the Council.

16. COMPLAINTS:

Complaints, even if lodged anonymously, must be investigated. 637 complaints were dealt with by the department during the year. Table 5 shows the nature of these complaints.

17. CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING :

The continued operation of these Regulations and the constantly growing list of articles which can be obtained only on permit have imposed a heavy burden on the department. Each and every application has had to be checked, and in addition, many visits have had to be made when applications for items on permit were received.

Quite apart from the inspection and supervision side of the work, a tremendous amount of office work was involved in the preparation of the licences and permits. This work was again willingly undertaken by Mr. Gunnell and Miss McDermid, often after office hours, and it is entirely due to their efforts and willing co-operation that the office records have been maintained up-to-date, and I wish to convey to them my sincere thanks for a job well and cheerfully done.

The following is a statement of licences as recorded in the Monthly Returns submitted to the Regional Licensing Officer.

Month.	Number of Licences.				Sum		
	Applied for.		Granted		Involved.		
					£	s.	d.
January	61	...	61	...	1,972	0	0
February	62	...	55	...	2,837	0	0
March	76	...	69	...	2,553	0	0
April	97	...	94	...	3,513	0	0
May	103	...	102	...	4,343	0	0
June	74	...	72	...	2,336	0	0
July	109	...	107	...	3,602	0	0
August	81	...	81	...	2,174	0	0
September	82	...	81	...	2,853	0	0
October	94	...	92	...	2,951	0	0
November	93	...	92	...	3,030	0	0
December	43	...	42	...	1,849	0	0
TOTALS	975	...	948	...	34,013	0	0

27 Applications and 10 part applications, involving a sum of £1,542: 0: 0, were refused. 32 licences to a total value of £1,209 were, for various reasons, cancelled.

In addition to the above licences, 322 permits were issued. The above figures do not include Applications for Licences in respect of work carried out by direct labour, several of which were issued during the year.

18. ICE CREAM :

Very large quantities of this commodity continue to be sold in your Borough, and there has been a fairly substantial increase in the number of premises registered for the sale of this material, 10 new registrations having been effected during the year, bringing the total of premises registered to 48.

Only two of the vendors manufacture their own product, the bulk of the ice-cream sold being supplied by the Bournemouth Ice Cream Co., Kone Star Ices, and Penguin Ice Cream Co., all firms whose premises are situated outside the Borough boundaries.

The manufacture and sale of ice-cream is now governed by the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, and as a very comprehensive report on the operation of these regulations has already been submitted, I do not propose to enter into any further lengthy discussion. Any member of the Council who may be interested in present-day requirements may obtain fuller information by reference to last year's report.

Due to shortage of materials, the equipment necessary to comply with some of the terms of the regulations has not yet been made available to manufacturers of ice-cream, and the Ministry has now extended the date, by which the equipment must be installed, to 1st May, 1949.

53 Samples were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Winchester, for examination, the samples being subjected to the prescribed Methylene Blue Test. Of the 53 samples tested:—

- 4 or 7.54% were placed in Grade 1.
- 11 or 20.75% were placed in Grade 2.
- 12 or 22.64% were placed in Grade 3.
- 26 or 49.07% were placed in Grade 4.

These results have been disappointing and, at times, confusing, for despite scrupulous cleanliness and complete co-operation on the part of the retailers concerned, repeat samples have continued to be placed in low grades. Efforts to trace and eradicate all possible sources of contamination are pursued vigorously, but the less this material is handled, and therefore exposed to contamination, the better, and I am still of the opinion that pre-packing at the factory would prove a considerable safeguard to the consumer, and in the event of unsatisfactory results being obtained on testing, the source of contamination could be more easily traced as, obviously, it would be at the manufacturing end only. The plea that such a requirement might put the small trader out of business is not the concern of health authorities, whose primary responsibility is the safeguarding of public health. As things are at present, the manufacturer denies responsibility and blames the retailer, and vice versa. This results in stalemate, satisfies neither side, and is a needless source of worry to those officers whose task it is to ensure that the product is pure and wholesome when it reaches the consumer.

19. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

Last year, because of the unsatisfactory conditions of the conveniences, I was left with no alternative but to submit an adverse report, the Council's attention being drawn not only to the insufficiency, but to the drab and uninviting condition of these

premises. I am again faced with the same problem this year, and though aware of the many difficulties confronting the Council, it is my firm belief that something could have been done to improve conditions.

New conveniences for ladies have been constructed in the High Street, and additional accommodation for both ladies and gents provided at The Quay, the latter having also been completely redecorated. This is a step in the right direction, but much remains to be done, the conveniences at Higheliff, Mudeford and the Barrack Road Recreation Grounds being in a bad state of repair and in urgent need of decoration. This, and the question of the provision of new conveniences at Purewell, the Haven Quay and Walkford, are matters which should be given immediate consideration if the conveniences in your Borough are to compare favourably with those of other progressive towns.

20. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL COSTS:

Tables 10 and 11 show in some detail the cost of collection and disposal of refuse and lorry operating costs.

There has been a comparatively small increase in costs, the excess of £449:9:11 being partly accounted for by a rise in wages, which takes up approximately £188 of this sum, the balance being due to increased costs of repairs and additional staff taken on to cope with the extra work brought about by the construction of new properties and the collection of refuse from Holmsley.

21. CONCLUSION:

I would again tender my thanks to His Worship The Mayor (Alderman E. J. Slinn); the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Councillor S. Kermode); the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. C. Conyers Morrell) and to his successor (Dr. D. J. N. McNab) for their support.

I also wish to express thanks to the Town Clerk (Mr. W. D. Platt) and to the staff of my department, both indoor and outdoor, for their loyal co-operation.

Your obedient Servant,

Town Hall,
Christchurch.
August, 1948.

FRANCIS LE V. FRIEND.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

TABLE I.
SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Control of Civil Building Visits	1202
Revisits	593
Housing Visits	79
Re-inspections	42
Works in progress	202
Housing—Allocation	320
Housing—Overcrowding	237
Drainage Visits	729
Re-inspections	230
Nuisances	284
Re-inspections	584
Unsound Food	150
Revisits	21
Food	393
Revisits	67
Ice Cream	213
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	115
Revisits	19
Infectious Diseases	29
Revisits	37
Verminous Premises	15
Factories	123
Revisits	35
Outworkers	—
Bakehouses	21
Public Conveniences	84
Vans, Tents, etc.	116
Revisits	74
Camping Sites	89
Shops	639
Refuse Collection and Disposal	476
Salvage	41
Rodent Control	698
Revisits	1930
Closet Accommodation	70
Water Supply	27
Offices	36
Miscellaneous	38

10,058

TABLE 2.

ARTICLES OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR.

Milk (Blown and Damaged in Transit)	234 tins.
Mixed Vegetables (Blown)	5 tins.
Soup (Blown)	10 tins.
Salmon (Blown and Decomposed)	10 tins.
Pears (Blown)	23 tins.
Beans (Blown)	45 tins.
Steak (Blown and Decomposed)	35 tins.
Kam (Blown)	2 tins.
Mint Wafers (Damaged in transit)	2 pkts.
Fruit Jellies (Damaged in transit)	1 pkt.
Minced Beef Loaf (Blown and Decomposed)	9 tins.
M. & V. Ration (Blown)	3 tins.
Mackerel (Blown)	5 tins.
Peas (Blown)	70 tins.
Filchards (Blown)	17 tins.
Beef (Decomposed)	2,621 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Corned Beef (Blown)	146 tins.
Corned Mutton (Blown)	35 tins.
Bovine Liver (Decomposed)	8 lbs.
Lamb (Decomposed)	73 lbs.
Tomatoes (Blown)	6 tins.
Sardines (Blown)	2 tins.
Bacon (Decomposed)	3 tins.
Luncheon Meat (Decomposed)	9 tins.
Plums (Blown)	10 tins.
Sausages (Blown)	10 tins.
Melon & Orange Jam (Blown)	1 tin.
Tinned Ham (Decomposed)	16 lbs.
Veal Loaf (Decomposed)	1 tin.
Prunes (Mouldy)	1 tin.
Fresh Herrings (Decomposed)	1 box.
Flesh Herrings (Decomposed)	7 stone.
Cured Cod (Decomposed)	4 stone.
Eggs (Broken and Decomposed)	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ doz.
Smoked Fillets (Decomposing)	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone.
Skinless Sausages (Tin Punctured)	1 tin.
Macaroni Cheese (Blown)	2 tins.
Cheese (Mouldy)	20 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Peaches (Blown)	14 tins.
Grape Fruit (Blown)	12 tins.
Prawns (Unwholesome)	66 lbs.
Smoked Herring Spread (Blown)	62 tins.
Oysters (Blown)	24 tins.
Hake (Blown and Decomposed)	20 tins.
Rolled Oats (Maggoty)	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Sweets (Contaminated with Glass)	39 lbs.
Sweets (Contaminated with Glass)	5 tins.

TABLE 2 (Continued).

Irish Stew (Contaminated with Glass)	2 tins.
Fish Balls (Contaminated with Glass)	1 tin.
Beetroot (Contaminated with Glass)	17 tins.
Marmalade (Contaminated with Glass)	3 jars.
Fruit Cocktail (Blown)	2 tins.
Fruit Salad (Blown)	7 tins.
Pork Pies (Contaminated with Glass)	6½ doz.
Breakfast Sausage (Contaminated with Glass) ...	10½ lbs.
Steak Pies (Contaminated with Glass)	59
Sausage Rolls (Contaminated with Glass)	7½ doz.
Apple Pies (Contaminated with Glass)	2½ doz.
Cream Buns (Contaminated with Glass)	4
Bread (Contaminated with Glass)	5 Loaves.
Spaghetti (Blown)	3 tins.
Crawfish (Decomposed)	1 tin.
Dried Egg (Decomposed)	4 pkts.
Bisto (Decomposed)	2 pkts.
Molasses (Tin Rusty)	1 tin.
Oatmeal (Contaminated with sour liquid)	1¼ cwt.
Herring Spread (Blown)	8 tins.
Bacon (Maggoty)	10¼ lbs.
Mussels (Blown)	6 tins.
Galantine Meat (Blown)	1 tin.
Spinach (Blown and Damaged)	2 tins.
Cod Liver Roe Paste (Blown)	7 tins.
Herring Tit-bits (Blown)	65 tins.
Beef Hash (Decomposed)	1 tin.
Salmon & Shrimp Paste (Blown and Damaged) ...	1 jar.
Marmalade (Blown)	2 tins.
Apricot & Plum Jam (Blown)	2 tins.
Koo Jam (Blown and Rusty)	29 tins.
Damsons (Blown)	1 tin.
Sea Mussels (Blown)	1 tin.

TABLE 3.

MILK SUPPLY.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

The following is a Summary of the particulars as recorded in the Registers at the 31st December, 1947.

No. of persons registered as Cowkeepers	12
No. of premises registered as Cowsheds	12
No. of cowkeepers who are also retailers of Milk	3
No. of persons registered as dairymen	18
No. of persons registered as retail purveyors of Milk ...	20
No. of persons resident outside the district retailing Milk in the area	5

TABLE 4.

RECORD OF NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE.

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department:—

(a) DRAINAGE:

No. of houses or premises drained or redrained	16
Repairs or amendments to existing drains	16
Drains or gullies unstopped and cleansed	41
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	460
Manholes provided	47
New Manhole Covers	53
Intercepting Traps fixed	15
New gully traps fixed	31
Fresh air inlet to drain, fixed	10
Soil Pipes or Vent Shafts fixed	12
Soil Pipes or Vent Shafts repaired	5
Water tests applied	34
Smoke tests applied	60

(b) SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND FITTINGS:

New W.C. Accommodation provided	12
New W.C. Apartments provided	11
New W.C. Pedestals provided	116
W.C's cleansed and repaired	21
New flushing cisterns provided	31
Flushing cisterns repaired	23
Baths provided	7
Sinks provided	13
Lavatory Basins provided	40
Cesspits abolished	8
Existing Waste Pipes trapped	1
Pail Closets and/or Middens abolished	3
New Waste Pipes Trapped	20

(c) MISCELLANEOUS:

Houses provided with through ventilation	2
New roofs provided	1
Roofs repaired	80
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	32
Stack pipes provided	6
Stack pipes disconnected or repaired	10
Damp walls remedied	50
Ventilation under floors provided	4
Yards paved	5
Yards repaired	1
Floors of rooms relaid	15
Floors of rooms repaired	29
New windows provided	11
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	415

TABLE 4 (Continued).

Windows repaired and/or made to open	67
Plaster of walls or ceiling repaired	117
Doors repaired or renewed	34
Ventilated food stores provided	2
Staircases provided or repaired	6
Dustbins provided	602
Nuisances—Overcrowding, abated	—
,, Smoke	2
,, Animals	9
,, Accumulation of manure	25
,, Accumulation of refuse	14
Workrooms cleansed and repaired	6
Cowsheds and Dairies cleansed	11
Grates, Ranges, Coppers, renewed or repaired	53
Rooms disinfected	35
Rooms disinfested	98
Insufficient water supply	5
Bakehouses cleansed	4
Fish Fryer's premises cleansed	4

TABLE 5.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 637 Complaints were received as detailed below:—

Nature of Complaint.	No. Received.
Choked drains	52
Defective roofs	32
Dilapidations	86
Defective Water Supply	8
Dampness	30
Overflowing Cesspits	4
Absence of Water Closets	—
Defective Water Closets	21
Absence of Dustbins	29
Animals	9
Smells	24
Non-removal of refuse	25
Defective sinks	2
Accumulation of refuse	14
Dirty Conditions	5
Verminous premises	12
Defective flushing cisterns	17
Overcrowding	9
Defective flues	2
General Living Conditions	4
Food	122
Rats	84
Non-collection of Salvage	2
Miscellaneous	44

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NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

Table 6 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

TABLE 6.

Number of Notices Served.

Notices	Out-standing 31/12/46	Number served	C'plied with	Work done by L.A. in default	Out-standing 31/12/47
Informal ...	127	134	237	—	24
Statutory ...	16	37	48	1	4
Total	143	171	285	1	28

Summary of Statutory Notices Served:

Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936	6
Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	31

HOUSING STATISTICS.

TABLE 7.

HOUSING ACT, 1936,—OVERCROWDING.

(a) 1.	Number of dwellings overerowed at the end of the year	845
2.	Number of families dwelling therein	872
3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	2,373
(b)	Number of new cases of overerowing reported during the year	279
(c) 1.	Number of cases of overerowing relieved during the year	377
2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	1,310
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overerowing	—
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overerowing conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ...	—

TABLE 8.
RECORD OF PETROL AND OIL CONSUMED
BY REFUSE LORRIES DURING 1946 AND 1947.

	PETROL. (Gallons).				Monthly Totals.	OIL. (Pints).				Monthly Totals.
	LORRY					LORRY				
1946. Month.	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	
January	74	52	—	69	195	8	12	—	14	34
February	72	52	—	73	197	8	8	—	4	20
March	85	71	—	80	236	18	12	—	2	32
April	83	94	—	69	246	14	16	—	2	32
May	79	96	—	88	263	22	10	—	6	38
June	84	83	—	71	238	18	12	—	8	38
July	85	110	—	78	273	20	28	—	13	61
August	84	137	—	74	295	18	22	—	4	44
September ...	87	127	—	64	278	28	28	—	8	64
October	99	110	—	79	288	31	34	—	9	74
November ...	83	38	139	70	330	22	4	24	17	67
December ...	84	97	156	25	362	4	2	12	4	22
TOTAL	999	1067	295	840	3201	211	188	36	91	525
1947.										
January	127	58	192	38	415	11	11	6	—	28
February	111	—	149	66	326	—	—	6	12	18
March	26	92	178	82	378	—	1	6	—	7
April	—	90	169	76	335	—	2	2	10	14
May	37	54	148	54	293	10	12	2	8	32
June	64	33	158	51	306	—	9	28	9	46
July	88	81	160	—	329	4	—	4	—	8
August	74	85	163	—	322	2	2	4	—	8
September ...	67	87	118	23	295	2	4	4	4	14
October	65	73	154	25	317	2	2	8	—	12
November ...	82	84	155	—	321	2	—	4	—	6
December ...	69	86	187	6	348	4	6	6	—	16
TOTAL	810	823	1931	421	3985	37	49	80	43	209

TABLE 9.
RECORD OF SALVAGE TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Month.	Paper			Metals.			Bones.			Textiles.			Bottles & jars	Value.	
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	Doz.	£	s. d.
January...	5	7	1 15	0	0	0 22	0	1	2 19	0	12	2 7	—	34	4 7
February ...	5	2	2 21										30	46	5 5
March ...	7	3	0 26										—	52	13 10
April ...	10	9	3 8	0	1	1 14				1	2	2 1	48	92	13 0
May ...	7	3	2 17	1	17	0 0							—	56	5 11
June ...	12	3	2 25				0	2	0 2	1	2	2 19	78	106	16 11
July ...	7	8	1 12	1	7	1 3				1	0	3 10	2	79	10 9
August ...	12	3	2 2	0	14	0 0							—	85	18 10
September ...	5	0	3 14										$\frac{1}{2}$	32	2 4
October ...	12	12	3 24	0	2	1 7	0	1	1 14	1	10	1 7	66	122	13 5
November ...	7	6	1 15	0	2	3 16	0	2	3 18	1	4	2 11	151	85	4 7
December ...	12	12	0 20	1	19	0 0				0	0	1 0	—	91	9 3
TOTALS ...	104	14	3 3	6	4	0 6	0	7	3 25	6	13	2 27	375 $\frac{1}{2}$	885	19 10
Bonus from Board of Trade vide Circular 127 ...														25	1 0
GRAND TOTALS ... £														911	0 10

TABLE 10.

**PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.
DETAILS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE,
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1948.**

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	REFUSE COLLECTION :		
1.	Wages of Foreman	53 10 4	
2.	Wages of Drivers	686 14 1	
3.	Wages of Loaders	2,115 9 9	
4.	Transport Charges... ..	1,388 7 11	
			4,244 2 1
	REFUSE DISPOSAL:		
5.	Wages	544 16 8	
6.	Tools & Implements, etc. ...	51 16 2	
			596 12 10
	Gross Expenditure—Collection and Disposal		4,840 14 11
	Less Gross Income—Collection and Disposal		165 9 9
	Net Expenditure—Collection and Disposal		£4,675 5 2

COLLECTION.

Estimated Population (June, 1947)—18,180.

Number of Houses or Premises—5,680.

Net cost per 1,000 Premises—£718 : 1 : 4.

Net cost per 1,000 Population—£224 : 6 : 11.

DISPOSAL.

Net cost per 1,000 Premises—£105 : 0 : 10.

Net cost per 1,000 Population—£32 : 16 : 4.

TABLE 11.

**SUMMARY OF OPERATING COSTS OF CORPORATION'S
REFUSE & SALVAGE LORRIES**
1st APRIL, 1947, TO 31st MARCH, 1948.

Lorry No.	Drivers' Wages.	Petrol & Oil.	Insurance & Tax.	Repairs.	Deprecia- tion.	Cleaning & Greasing.	Total Cost	No. Working days.	Total Mileage.	Total Petrol Consump.(gals.)	M.P.G.	Cost per Mile.	Cost per Hour.	Cost per Day.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.					p.	p.	£ s. d.
1.	225 8 9	89 10 7	45 8 3	150 17 3	130 0 0	3 18 9	645 3 7	255	5171	848	6.09	29.94	71.41	2 10 7
2.	240 15 8	94 3 8	45 8 3	131 9 2	130 0 0	3 19 2	645 15 11	273	6077	871	6.97	25.50	67.0	2 7 4
3.	261 12 4	175 2 0	83 19 10	70 18 1	225 0 0	0 39 0	855 12 5	294	5165	1917	2.69	39.75	82.12	2 18 2
4.	92 13 9	35 2 0	39 3 4	103 8 10	65 0 0	0 6 7	335 14 6	98	2888	346	8.34	27.89	96.70	3 8 6

TABLE 12.
RECORD OF KITCHEN WASTE COLLECTIONS AND SALES
during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1947.

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	Value.		
					£	s.	d.
January	11	3	2	0	17	17	7
February	9	15	3	0	15	13	9
March	9	17	3	0	15	16	8
April	9	0	1	0	14	8	7
May	10	0	3	0	16	0	7
June	9	15	2	0	15	12	3
July	9	6	1	0	14	17	2
August	11	7	0	0	18	2	2
September	13	13	1	14	21	15	4
October	13	1	3	0	20	15	10
November	9	17	2	0	15	14	7
December	9	4	1	0	14	12	8
TOTALS	126	3	2	14	201	7	2

TABLE 13.
RECORD OF "CONCENTRATE" SOLD TO PIG AND
POULTRY KEEPERS.

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	Value.		
					£	s.	d.
January	7	17	0	0	36	16	0
February	6	15	0	0	32	4	0
March	6	9	0	0	30	17	3
April	6	2	0	0	29	4	0
May	6	6	0	0	30	1	9
June	7	13	0	0	36	11	3
July	5	13	0	0	26	16	0
August	6	5	0	0	29	8	3
September	10	14	0	0	49	1	3
October	7	15	0	0	36	3	6
November	6	16	0	0	32	2	6
December	6	16	0	0	32	8	9
TOTALS	85	1	0	0	401	14	6

TABLE 14.

**KITCHEN WASTE AND CONCENTRATE
COLLECTION AND DELIVERY COSTS,
Period 1st January to 31st December, 1947.**

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Gross Income:		
	Collection and Disposal	603 1 8	
	Claims on Ministry	75 3 2	678 4 10
	Gross Income—Collection and Disposal		678 4 10
	Less Gross Expenditure:		
1.	Payments for Swill	52 7 3	
2.	Payments for Concentrate	317 18 11	
3.	Transport (including Driver) ...	186 3 10	
4.	Wages (Additional Labour)	49 10 11	
5.	Stationery, etc.	2 5 6	608 6 5
	Net Income—Collection and Disposal		£69 18 5

TABLE 15.

RODENT CONTROL.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE, Year ending 31st March, 1948.

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1.	Bait	2 11 9	
2.	Poison	1 18 9	
3.	Stationery, etc.	3 6 0	
4.	Bicycle repairs	0 8 0	
5.	Salary of Assistant Rodent Officer	335 18 6	344 3 0
	Gross Expenditure—Destruction of Rats... ..		344 3 0
	Gross Income—Destruction of Rats		19 9 0
	Net Expenditure—Destruction of Rats		£324 14 0

TABLE 16.

RODENT CONTROL.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Month.	No. of Points Baited.			Bait Taken.			Bodies Recovered.	Estimated Total Kill.
	No. of Premises Inspected.	Prebait.	Poison.	Postbait.	Prebait.	Poison.		
January	191	554	117	339	325	82	6	79
February	217	492	72	251	232	51	—	47
March	277	246	45	257	72	25	15	49
April	252	534	26	144	165	18	—	51
May	309	910	187	447	363	109	10	75
June	249	386	92	128	341	89	12	115
July	143	175	24	132	71	15	14	25
August	190	189	44	142	100	35	2	31
September	172	342	116	382	189	72	46	62
October	251	1668	411	387	1109	373	64	318
November	201	296	59	201	175	40	—	52
December	176	152	24	122	88	16	—	22
TOTALS	2628	5944	1217	2932	3230	925	169	926

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1947 FOR THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities	21	23	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	63	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding out-workers' prem- ises)	14	32	—	—
TOTAL	91	123	1	—

2. **CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:**

		No. of cases in which defects were found.			
Particulars.	Found	Remedied.	Referred		No. of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted.
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	18	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	2	1	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	2	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	7	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	6	4	—	—	—
TOTAL	45	18	—	—	—

OUTWORKER SECTION—NIL.

